

[Sir Hopetoun Stokes] [21st February 1934]

by high financial authority, and, if Madras has managed thus far to come through a period of great difficulty with success, we owe it primarily to those who have served us so well in this, the most pivotal department of all.'

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The general discussion on the Budget will commence on the 23rd February 1934. During the discussion I propose to prescribe a time-limit of 20 minutes for the speech of a Leader of a Party and 10 minutes for the speech of any other Member. I would suggest that the reading of manuscript speeches should be exceptional. In regard to such speeches, I propose to prescribe a time-limit of 6 minutes. The afternoon of Monday the 26th February 1934 will be at the disposal of Hon. Members of Government to make their replies."

III.—REPORT^a OF THE MADRAS SERVICES COMMISSION FOR THE YEAR 1932-33.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The discussion on the report of the Madras Services Commission will now be resumed."

* Mr. G. LAKSHMANA REDDI:—"Sir, the report of the Services Commission says that, since the institution of the scheme of competitive examination, the Commission held two examinations, one in March 1931 and the other in March 1932, and selected 2,278 candidates for appointment as clerks in various Government offices in the Presidency. The report further states that of these only 50 per cent of the candidates had been absorbed. The Commission observes that as a consequence there was no necessity for another examination in 1932. While matters stand thus, Government want that in the case of these appointments medical certificates should be produced along with the applications. The Legislative Council in its debates passed a resolution that medical certificates should be made to be produced not with the applications but after selection. I think these certificates may be ordered to be procured after selection and not before the selection, because it is not known how many of these candidates go unemployed on account of the operation of the age-limit rule. It is very desirable that the medical certificate should be ordered to be produced only after selection.

"Another important point which the Government are now adopting by an amendment of the rule relating to the Madras Ministerial Service is that of prescribing typewriting qualification for appointment as clerks with effect from the 1st January of this year. The Commission rightly protested that this amendment by the Government was not at all necessary. It would be oppressive on the part of the poor-paid clerks. But the Government turns down the suggestion of the Commission and insists that these clerks should possess typewriting qualifications. In every Government office there are typists and it is not known why every clerk should possess this typewriting qualification to boot.

^a For previous discussion, please see proceedings of the 5th February 1934.

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"The Government had contemplated to open an institute for training clerks and this idea was suggested to the Commission by the Government. But the Commission was rightly of the opinion that an institute like this was unnecessary and burdensome. I am glad the proposal is dropped.

"With regard to the competitive examination for recruitment of civil assistant surgeons, the Commission seems to have pressed the Government to pass orders on the lists of successful candidates furnished. It is regrettable that no orders are passed yet, even though the examination was held in June 1931.

"The Government informed the Commission that on a suggestion made by the Government of India the Local Government proposed to increase the fee for medical examination from Rs. 7-8-0 to Rs. 16 in the case of candidates for Provincial Services. The Commission stated that as candidates had to pay an examination fee of Rs. 20 on application, it was highly inadvisable to enhance the fee on medical certificates. Nevertheless, the Government ordered the imposition of the enhanced rate of fee.

"In this connexion I may state that there is a feeling in the Ceded districts that candidates belonging to those districts are not encouraged. Provided qualified candidates are available, I suggest that Ceded districts applicants may be encouraged to stimulate education in those benighted tracts."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, every year we have before us a report presented of the activities of the Public Services Commission. This year, more than the previous year, the Commission has taken Government furiously to task for trying their utmost to nullify their objects for which the Commission had been brought into existence. The Government was opposed to any political influence being brought to bear in the matter of appointment. But now the time has unfortunately come when the Government themselves have gone wrong. Half of the report contains the various ways in which the Government has been trying to reduce the Commission practically into non-existing condition. There are many paragraphs in the report where the Services Commission complain that the appointments have been made by the departments themselves without the consultation of the Commission or any selection being made by the Commission itself.

"I know, Sir, as a matter of fact, fears were entertained in certain quarters when the Commission was brought into existence. But some of us thought that by the appointment of the Commission, a body independent of the Government, it would be possible to give effect to the communal rule without any regulation whatever. But the Government would not allow that body to carry on its work in that direction. The vested interests in the departments, by their interpretation of the rules made for the conduct of its activities by the Commission, and by their manipulation of the vacancies arising in the various departments, are trying to put the communal Government Order in the background.

12-15
p.m.

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In this situation if either the Ministers or the Members of Government exercise their patronage, they will be playing into the hands of these vested interests who are interested in their own existence and in the existence of their own people.

“ Sir, on the question of the examination fees, medical fees and so on, I am not going to repeat on this occasion what has been many a time said in this House. It seems to me a pity that numerous candidates should be invited to appear for examinations and made to spend enormous sums when ultimately only a fraction of their number get jobs. Recently, on account of reasons best known to Government themselves, though the Commission was called upon to make selection of candidates and that body did make the selection, the Government have not enabled that body to publish the list. Unnecessary difficulties have been put by the departments in the way of the Commission's selection. When once the Commission has been called upon to make the selection and the selection has been made, I do not see what purpose is served by delaying the publication of the list for years together. The departmental head takes objection to the selection on various flimsy grounds and the selection is not approved. This means that the Commission is there for no purpose. It is possible that hon. Members of the House, from a very cursory glance at the report of the activities of the Commission, might come to the conclusion that it need not exist. But I am afraid that will be taking a very hasty view of the question. If they think deeply, they will change their opinion. The Government have erred in their dealings with the Commission. If they had kept aloof from the Commission and had not tried to patronize anybody, the Commission would have functioned and would function properly in advancing the interests of all communities inhabiting this Presidency.”

* MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“ Mr. President, the Madras Services Commission was started under very hopeful auspices, but I am afraid the activities of this body have been of a very disappointing nature; so much so, the Government had occasion to complain about it in a very vigilant manner. Though expediency required on certain occasions the withdrawal of the criticism made against the Commission, the truth of the allegations made seemed obvious. Sir, if, on reading the report which is now the subject-matter of the discussion, I do not take up cudgels against the Government on the information furnished by the Commission; it is because I fear it is merely a case of the kettle calling the pot black. In the various stages of the activities of this body such as recruitment, conduct of examinations, levy of fees, insistence on medical certificates and particularly in the award of punishments, it does not seem to have acted quite in the public interests.

“ First, let us take the question of the personnel of the Secretary. It is very wrong in policy to allow an officer to remain in that office for an unduly long period. It is a healthy convention—though in recent days this convention is not on all occasions observed—that even for

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the terms of Executive Councillors there should be a time-limit, so that persons who have been in Government service or who have been Executive Councillors might not make themselves rusted with the work and might give place to others. In the case of the Secretaryship of the Commission it is really very desirable there should be a change at least at every period of three years. The Government were following this policy in the case of the Collectors and the Secretaries to the Government. I therefore suggest, Sir, that the Government might consider the urgent desirability of not allowing the Secretary to the Commission to earn what may be called vested interests in being permanently in that job for a long number of years.

“ The second matter that calls for some comments is the levy of fees for the selection and special test examinations. In this matter, I am glad to note that the Public Services Commission made a recommendation that the fees might be reduced. The levy of fees from candidates brings in a revenue of nearly Rs. 50,600. There is no justification to levy such fees from the candidates who appear for examinations to get themselves qualified for the public services. If this levy was made by a non-official employment agency, it would amount to nothing short of cheating. When that is the case, why, Sir, should a Government body instituting examinations for the selection of persons for the public service, try to collect a revenue from these unfortunate candidates? The times are too hard to think of collecting these fees from the applicants on the plea that they increase the work of this body and therefore should contribute for its maintenance. The parents of these unfortunate young men whose lot is to hang on the doors of the Public Services Commission must have spent large sums to educate these young men. In fact, if there is any wisdom in the parents spending large sums on the education of their boys, they would do well to lay-by this sum as a capital investment allowing the interest earned by it to be used as expenses for the maintenance of the boys. Sir, not less than Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 15,000 is generally spent upon a young man even to go up to the S.S.L.C. grade. This sum of Rs. 15,000 will even in these days of low rate of interest, bring in about Rs. 78 in the shape of interest. If we take into account the various other sums spent upon the boy, this amount would be enough to maintain him without an unnecessary undue strain upon his brains. I beg to suggest to the Government that they need not make revenue from these unfortunate youths and that if an entrance fee is absolutely necessary it might be made a merely nominal one.

“ There is one other matter on which the report of the Public Services Commission is a legitimate criticism upon the resolution of the Government to lower the qualifications of candidates according to communities. I do not think, Sir, it was ever the intention of even the best advocate of the communal Government Order, that there should be a lowering of qualifications in the case of particular communities. Even in the interests of those communities which are not adequately

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represented in the services, this sort of differentiation is not very happy. It would certainly mean a reflection upon the merits of the candidates belonging to these communities.

12-30 P.m. "What we really wanted was that men having equal qualifications should have equal opportunities, so that representation of all communities might be provided for in the public services. I thought, Sir, that was the view the Government also took and it therefore comes to me as a surprise that, despite the recommendation of the Madras Services Commission, the Government should have considered that qualifications might be reduced according to communities.

"With regard to sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph 9, Sir, this is an unnecessary restriction put upon clerks, i.e., prescribing typewriting qualification for applicants aspiring for a clerk's post. It looks as though the amount of time spent by these young men on their academic qualifications is not enough, and that they must put themselves to the further strain of passing an examination on typewriting, when even typewriting is not a necessary requirement for the post to which these young men aspire. To insist on this qualification would only mean restricting the scope of selection of candidates and thus augmenting the ranks of the unemployed people. I would therefore request Government to remove that qualification.

"In the Veterinary Service, it is stated that the qualifications originally laid down were modified; and not only modified in order that they may be given effect to in future, but they were modified so as to give them effect two years earlier from the date on which the modification was made, i.e., retrospective effect by two years. Though the amendment was issued on 20th December 1932, it was given retrospective effect from 7th April 1930. This, on the very face of it, must strike one to be very unreasonable, as it certainly does not conduce to the efficiency of the services.

"With regard to paragraph 11, I wish to state that the non-publication of the names of selected candidates causes a great deal of unrest among the applicants, and I appeal to Government to expedite the publication of the list.

"Sir, after a great deal of agitation in the Legislative Council the preliminary production of the certificate of physical fitness by candidates was in some cases discarded. And yet there are a few other cases in which such certificates could be discarded, and I wish Government extend this leniency to those cases also.

"With regard to the fee for medical examination, I think the Madras Services Commission recommended Rs. 7-8-0 to be the fee that must be charged for that examination. But for reasons unknown and which are not explained, Government do not agree with that proposal but insist upon Rs. 16 being paid.

"Sir, it is a pity that to the various criticisms of the Commission, the answers of Government have not been appended to the report; and probably those answers would at least be now forthcoming. In any

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case, it would be only more convenient to the House if they are made aware of what Government have to say with regard to the charges made by the Commission.

“With regard to candidates selected by the Commission but who, for want of vacancies, could not be appointed—their case seems to be very hard indeed. These candidates undergo all trials which are necessary and incidental for qualifying themselves to the public service, and when once they get themselves entered in the list, that should be considered sufficient for appointment in the public service, even though they may pass the age-limit by the time they are first appointed. To hold otherwise would be working hardship on them. When they have once qualified themselves for public service, naturally they look up to Government appointment, discarding all appointments in other services, and if owing to various policies of the Government from time to time, either on account of retrenchment or on account of adjustment, even the selected candidates get no chance of being appointed even once, before they attain 25 years, it only stands to reason that they should not be victimized on that account. Therefore, Sir, I consider some concession should be given to them; and I daresay it would be possible for Government to give them preference, if only they want to do so, by adding two or three years to the age-limit.

“Sir, paragraph 21 is rather difficult to be understood by me. It is stated: ‘The Government have after consultation with the Commission directed that, other things being equal, the status of a candidate’s family and his family connexions should be taken into account in selecting candidates for appointment otherwise than by competitive examination.’ It looks very harmless, Sir, in giving preference to the status of a candidate’s family. But what the ‘status’ is, requires further elucidation. Whether being the son of a Government servant, or being a relative of a member of a public service, or being a relative of a member of the staff of the Secretariat, or being a relation of a Member of Government or a Member of the Legislative Council would be considered sufficient status to give preference to a candidate over others possessing equal qualifications, is not clear. Unless it is clearly defined, this will lead to many abuses and open to suspicion. I would therefore request Government to make that matter clearer.

“With regard to paragraph 22, I think Government have got to explain why the candidate that was selected by the Commission was dropped, and another was appointed. The explanation given here does not satisfy me, particularly in view of the fact that the finally selected candidate is not a British Indian candidate, but belongs to an Indian State, which is another disqualification against that candidate. This would require an explanation from the Government. I do not think they could possibly explain it away by saying that they have awarded a scholarship to that particular candidate with the specific intention that that candidate should be appointed to the post in question. I hope there is some other reason, for the Commission itself says

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that it fails to 'appreciate how the provisions of statutory rules may be *deemed* to have been complied with when they were not actually complied with.'

"Apart from this, the Madras Services Commission criticizes the Government for not giving reasons why they could not agree with their recommendations on one or other matter. It is here the Commission is guilty of the same laconic and short orders as the Government. In the matter of punishment, so far as I can see in the report and so far as I heard, they do not seem to be following any consistent policy. In the first place, the services have got a right to look to the Commission as a judicial body, which hears the pros and cons of every charge that is brought to its notice, and then delivers an impartial judgment. But if it should only dot the i's and cross the t's of the heads of the department, or follow its own procedure without giving reasons for its decision, I am afraid its orders or decisions will not carry much weight; and not only that, it might be doing considerable harm to the services. There are instances in which enquiries are held in a very perfunctory manner; I do not think the person concerned was called for and asked to answer the charges made against him; everything is done *in camera*; in some cases the Commission has not given an opportunity to the person concerned to vindicate his cause; and in some other cases the records which the party concerned wanted to summon and which could easily have been secured, the Commission did not consider it necessary to call for. Therefore, the inquiry which the Commission is holding is anything but judicial.

"It appears to be the characteristic feature of Government, be it of any department, not to adduce reasons for their decision; so much so the aggrieved party is at a loss to know whether all the facts bearing on the case were brought to the notice of the Government, before they came to their decision.

"I suppose Government are aware of the difference in punishment awarded for the same offence in respect of different individual officers. It has been represented to me—I do not know what amount of accuracy or truth there is in that—that even in the matter of punishment, it went by communal order. If a public servant belonged to a particular community, the punishment was of one nature. If the same offence was committed by a person belonging to another community, the punishment was more severe.

12-45 P.M. "That is certainly a very disquieting feature. But, as I said already, this is a statement which I make so that the Government may make enquiries and let us know whether there is any accuracy in that statement. Apart from that for the same kind of offence two kinds of punishment were awarded. In one case it was simply blocking of promotion, but in another case it was dismissal. In both the cases the heads of departments seemed to have exercised more caution than the Public Services Commission. It would be some consolation to the Government servants concerned if only the Public Services Commission had made

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their judgments followed up by arguments for coming up to such decisions. I am afraid I will have to remark that the Commission has acted very badly and unless it is able to justify its judgment by cogent arguments, their judgments will always be open to suspicion of being partial or prejudicial.

“ Apart from that, it will be really accusable that the Public Services Commission should be thinking that their recommendations should always be respected by Government irrespective of other considerations. Wherever the Government disagree with the Public Services Commission, the Government must be in a position to state the reasons. Apart from that it would be wrong to allow the Public Services Commission to be under the impression that their decision should be final. Every moment the Government have to answer public opinion and public opinion expects the Government to state the reasons for following a particular line of policy from time to time. Therefore a certain amount of freedom must be given to the Members of Government that in cases of departure from the recommendations of the Public Services Commission, only restricted by the necessities of the case, they must be allowed to state those reasons and justify those reasons in the public.

“ With these few remarks I move the amendments of which I have already given notice and copies of which are already in the hands of hon. Members of this House. The amendments are as follows:—

‘ and on such consideration, this Council recommends to the Government—

- (1) *that the personnel of the Secretary to the Commission be changed every three years;*
- (2) *that the fees for selection and special test examinations be considerably reduced;*
- (3) *that lowering of qualifications according to the communities is undesirable;*
- (4) *that the enforcement of a pass in typewriting for appointment as clerks is unnecessary;*
- (5) *that giving retrospective effect to a rule passed in December 1932, to 7th April 1930, in qualifications for selection for admission into the Veterinary Service is unreasonable;*
- (6) *that the preliminary production of certificates of physical fitness by candidates for clerks' posts be discarded;*
- (7) *that the fee for medical examination be restored to Rs. 7-8-0; and*
- (8) *that candidates selected should be given preference even though at the time of appointment they have passed the age-limit.’*

“ I do not think it has been the practice of this House to propose amendments in connexion with this report but only to make observations and allow the report to be passed. The more correct procedure,

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I thought, would be that the suggestions which the hon. Members will have to make might be put in the form of amendments, so that, if they find acceptance by the majority of the House, the Government will be able to consider them and treat them as resolutions and not only that, giving such regard and respect which the resolutions of this House have got a right to expect from the Government."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"I second it."

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"I was not aware that it was possible to move any amendment to-day to this report. That is the reason I have to make some general observations on the report in addition to the specific amendment I am going to move in view of the amendment which has just been moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. With your permission, Sir, I shall make my general observations and then come to the amendment which I propose to move."

"The Madras Services Commission was the subject of a considerable amount of criticism in the past. It is a new institution and it has had many difficulties to face. I think the best reply to the various criticisms that have been made against the Commission is the report which is now under discussion. It shows not only good work done but a courageous attitude which I think is very necessary, in view of the functions which have to be performed by a Public Services Commission. Last year I believe the Hon. the Revenue Member during the discussion on the previous year's report said:

'In every country where there is a system of Government similar to that adopted in this country it has always been found necessary to dissociate appointments from political influences and to remove them as far as possible from the sphere of those responsible for the Legislature. Experience shows that otherwise there is considerable danger of instability and inefficiency in Government service.'

The necessity for the Madras Services Commission, I think, need not be argued at any very great length. At present it is absolutely necessary in my opinion. When all power goes into the hands of Ministers who are responsible to the Council and to the people, the executive part of the work must necessarily be transferred to a different body and the power of appointment must also be transferred to a Commission such as the Public Services Commission. This is the practice in all civilized countries. So far as England is concerned, the Public Services Commission there never found itself criticized even in Parliament. It has established its position so securely. However, in our Province there are difficulties to face. I have no doubt that in course of time it will be found that this Commission has justified its existence. It is natural there should be some difficulty and as Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti pointed out, the Madras Services Commission acts more or less in a mechanical sort of way and it has no humane feelings which the heads of departments seem to have as has been referred to in one or two cases which have been referred to in this report. I cannot but feel that the Government have acted correctly and justice has been done in the case where a lady has been appointed to a certain post in

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a college, because there was an original promise to her, but unfortunately the Government acted in an irregular manner. This is a matter which has got to be rectified.

"There are several things which I wish to deal with. In the first place I wish to refer to one fact, viz., that it is left to the Government to decide, when a set of appointments has to be filled in, whether the selection is to be by means of competitive examination or by a scrutiny of the applications placed before them coupled with an interview. In my opinion, as far as possible, all appointments should be filled by competitive examinations. That is the case in England. I quite admit that it is not the ideal method, but it is possible to also have an interview with these applicants to select the best men suitable for the posts. This sort of competitive examination is a better system than patronage. It is because of the evil of patronage in England that a system of competitive examination was introduced. This system of competitive examination was first introduced in connexion with the Indian Civil Service Examination. Before that, several appointments were made by mere patronage. But after the Indian Civil Service Examination was established, its success was very great as is shown by the type of Members of the Civil Service who occupy the Treasury Bench to-day. The success of this competitive examination was so great that it was extended to all sorts of appointments in England. After a long period of years this system has been introduced in Madras in regard to the Ministerial Service, but I do not see any reason why it has stood there, and such a system could not have been introduced in the case of appointments like the reserve sub-registrar, junior inspectors of co-operative societies and so forth. I feel strongly that a comprehensive examination for all possible services could be introduced and the successful candidates may be asked to choose whichever service they want, just as it is done in the case of the combined examination for the Indian Civil Service, Home Civil Service and Eastern cadetships. Even as regards the Police service, in England there is a competitive examination and I do not see any reason why we should not have such an examination here. The interview is certainly a satisfactory method of selection, but it is not possible to interview 30 or 40 applicants that come before you to find out which of them is the most suitable. About a year ago or so, when a post in the Police Department had to be filled in, and when there were well-qualified applicants and when one out of them was selected as the best man, within six months he had to be discontinued. Supposing there are a number of applicants and you will have to select only two or three out of them, how are you to find out after an interview which of them is the best man? So that by this process in case, any bad selection is to be made, the blame should be laid not upon the shoulders of the Madras Services Commission but upon the system itself. Therefore, I strongly urge that ways and means must be found to hold competitive examinations for all posts other than perhaps technical posts.

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“ There is one point of detail to which I should like to refer now and I think it has already been referred to by Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. That is with regard to the appointments in the Ministerial Service. As many as 2,258 candidates were selected in 1931 for this service and normally they would all have been appointed but for the fact that there was retrenchment and exemptions were given to a large number of persons already in service. These were two exceptional circumstances which may not recur. Therefore, I think that all these men who have been selected, who have been in great suspense for several years and who have endured, I should say, much worry and agony of mind, should be appointed before new men are selected. It may be said that such a course would work as a hardship to the many young men who will be seeking appointments. But I submit that it would be a greater hardship and injustice not to appoint men who have already been selected and who for reasons beyond their control have not yet received any appointments. I know that the Hon. the Revenue Member is very conscientious and in several cases which have been brought to his notice, he has dealt with them in a very humane way. I trust therefore that on this point also, he will see that justice is done to a large number of candidates who have been enduring all this trouble for several years.

“ Another point referred to in the report of the Commission is that personal records of officers are not sent to them, but only copies of such records are sent to them. Such a step might lead to mistakes being committed and even to abuse. I want that in all cases the original record should be sent to the Services Commission. I think that according to Statutory Rules no adverse remark can be made against any officer in his personal record without it being shown to the officer concerned. I am not quite sure on the point and I speak subject to correction. But if there is no such rule, it is high time that such a rule was made. No adverse remark against an officer should be entered in his personal record without its being shown to him and without his being given an opportunity to rebut the charge made against him. (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: ‘ I think there is a Government Order to that effect.’) If so, I think the Government Order is not always observed. Sometimes an official finds to his great surprise that he is not promoted and that he is kept back for several years, because of some adverse remark made against him, of which he was not aware and about which he had no opportunity of making his defence. There was one such case a few years ago. The officer concerned was not promoted for several years. I think he must have lost a large sum of money, because an adverse remark had been made against him. However ultimately justice was done to him and recently he has been promoted. But there must be several other cases like this. I trust that if there is a Government Order as pointed out by Mr. Basheer Ahmed, an enquiry will be made into the case I have mentioned just now to find out why the Government Order was not observed. Government officials do hard work and I do not see why they should not be treated fairly. I do not think we want star chamber procedure in the case of Government officers. Any adverse remark made against an officer should be shown to him and he should be given an

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opportunity to say what he has to say in his defence. Then only, the adverse remark should be taken notice of by the Madras Services Commission. If the Commission gets a personal record sent to them in which it is not clear that the person concerned has made his defence, they should not take any notice whatever of the adverse remarks against the person concerned.

“ There is another point and that is about the reserve sub-registrars. I believe applications were called for a long time ago (an hon. Member : four years ago) and yet all these men have been kept in suspense. We do not know why they have not been selected. If they were not wanted, it would have been better to have told them, ‘ we do not want you.’ They have been kept in suspense. They feel they may get an appointment any day, but perhaps ultimately many of them will not get an appointment at all. In the mean time, many of them will become age-barred. This is sheer injustice to these men. This did not take place formerly when there was no Madras Services Commission. The heads of departments were then able to get into touch with individual applicants. I mention this not because I want to criticise the Commission—it is not their fault—but I want to point out that these matters which may seem small to them are very great indeed for the public.

“ As regards the comments made in the report of the Commission, I trust that the Government will give us proper and effective replies, so that we may know exactly why having invested the Commission with certain functions in the interests of the public, they did not permit them to exercise those functions.”

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ The hon. Member has not moved his amendment.”

MR. M. S. SRESHTA:—“ I am sorry I forgot to move my amendment. I move, Sir, that the following be added at the end of the motion:—

‘ and on such consideration, the Council recommends to the Government that the Secretary to the Commission be appointed for three years and shall be eligible for reappointment for a further period not exceeding three years and that the Commission shall have power to discontinue his services at any time.’

My amendment is a compromise between Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti’s motion and the existing practice, because the Secretary to the Commission may prove himself to be a very useful man and his services might be needed beyond the fixed period. Of course, he should not be under the control of the Government, but under the control of the Commission, because if he writes a strong report like the one now before the Council, he might be removed from the post at the end of three years. I think it would be better if we left it to the Madras Services Commission to continue his services or not beyond the period of three years.”

MR. G. R. PREMAYYA:—“ I second it.”

* MR. P. V. RAJAGOPAL PILLAI:—“ Mr. President, Sir, we have been urging the Government to raise the age-limit of candidates from the

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depressed classes for appointments in Government service from 25 to 30 years. In answer to question No. 1021 put on 14th March 1932, the Hon. the Revenue Member said that the Government had decided to raise the age-limit to 27 in the case of the Ministerial Service and to 26 in the case of services for which technical qualifications have been prescribed. We are very grateful to the Government even for this small mercy. But to our great dismay we find in paragraph 8 (b) of the Administration Report of the Services Commission that this concession would be in force only until 1936. I am sure that the House would agree with me when I say that by 1936 the boys and girls of my community will not have risen anywhere to the level of the boys and girls of other communities in the matter of education. I would therefore urge upon the Government to consider this question very sympathetically and allow this concession to be in force for at least ten years from 1932."

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am afraid, I cannot agree with all that Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti has said. The object with which the Services Commission was brought into existence was to see that Government appointments were kept above political influences. If that was so, the Government should not at all interfere with the selections made by the Commission. The Government may make rules and regulations in order to see that the selections are impartial, but once the selections are made, they must be final. I do not mind if the Government comes to the conclusion that it is not necessary to continue the Services Commission, but after sufficient consideration of the matter, they have decided that in view of the coming constitutional changes that is to establish popular Government in this country, such a Commission is essential in order to ensure impartiality in recruitment and security for the services. Therefore, I think the selections made by the Commission should be final and should not be interfered with by the Government. It is necessary to leave the selections to all the Government departments in the hands of the Commission. In page 3 of the Commission's report it is stated that recruitment to one Provincial Service remains to be transferred to the Commission, viz., the Madras Civil Service (Judicial Branch). Sir, if there is one service recruitment to which should be transferred to the Commission, it is the Madras Civil Service (Judicial Branch); yet it has not been done. Not merely in this Provincial Service, but even the clerks in that department are not recruited by the Commission. Some time back, in answer to a question put in the Council, it was stated that the duty of selecting officers to this service would soon be delegated to the Commission. I do not know why it has taken such a long time to do this.

"With regard to violation of the rules, sufficient has already been said by hon. Members and I do not want to add anything more.

"With regard to the question of age-limit for entry into Government service, the Government have been satisfied that on account of the conditions of life and other things, members of certain communities cannot finish their education as early as members of other advanced

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communities and therefore they have raised the age-limit in the case of those backward communities to 26 in some cases and 27 in some other cases. But this concession is to be in force only for a period of five years, while the difficulties that stand in the way of these communities finishing their education before 25 will continue to remain even after these five years. Especially in the case of Muhammadans, it is well-known that before a boy finishes his religious education he cannot go in for his secular education, and that means a delay of two or three years as compared with the children of other communities. That difficulty will continue for a long time to come, if not for ever. So that, the rule raising the age-limit in the case of Muhammadans, depressed classes and other backward classes should be in force for some years more at least.

“ With regard to making typewriting as a qualification for clerkship, I should say that it is a hardship as has been pointed out by Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. It is not all appointments that require a knowledge of typewriting and, when that is the case, it would be a hardship if typewriting is insisted on as a qualification for all clerkships. The parents undergo so much trouble and expense in educating their boys and it would be an additional unnecessary hardship if you insist on this additional qualification. The Commission's report says; ‘ There is no reason to expect an adequate supply by 1st January 1934 of candidates with the qualifications in typewriting now prescribed for appointment either as clerks or as typists.’ When even the Commission finds it difficult to get a sufficient number of men qualified in typewriting for appointment as clerks, that qualification is, I submit, not called for at least for the present. Either it may be discontinued or kept in abeyance for a long time.

“ The Commission say further that the applicability of the Ministerial Service Rules to the establishment in the Judicial department has been under consideration and that no decision has been arrived at. Even in the case of clerks in the Judicial department, I do not see why the Government have not seen their way to come to a decision yet. Appointment of clerks in the Judicial Department is made without any reference, I am told, to the list of candidates supplied by the Commission to the Collectors, for appointment in the Judicial department.

“ Though the production of certificates for physical fitness has been dispensed with in the case of some appointments, it is still insisted upon in the case of several other appointments. This is an unnecessary item of expenditure incurred by the poor clerks. In some cases, I think, the production of physical fitness certificate is not at all necessary. That is a point that has to be taken into consideration. The fees which is proposed to be raised is very high. It ought to be, as recommended by the Services Commission, Rs. 7-8-0. Several persons are selected and put in the list by the Commission and the Government say when there is no vacancy and when they are not provided for in any department, that the candidates are age-barred for further appointments. It is very hard. Once the Commission makes the selection and the candidates are put in

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the list, they must be assured that appointments will be given to them in course of time. Selections are made only against a certain number of vacancies that are likely to occur in the course of the year; if all the candidates could not be employed and if a few are left over, they should not be allowed to go without any appointments thereby losing their chances in other departments or in other walks of life. I support the amendment of Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti not in all respects, but in respect of items (2), (4), (6), (7) and (8).'

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I am afraid that this time the Government have come in for a great deal of criticism at the hands of the Public Services Commission; I think they deserve it, unless they are going to give an effective reply. The institution of Public Services Commission is desirable if not necessary. It is really necessary. I believe the practice in all civilized countries in the world where there are popular governments, is to have a Services Commission both in the interests of the services and the public so as to make the Government not interfere in individual cases. The extent to which the Government can interfere in the matter of selections to be made by the Madras Services Commission, is not really very limited. It is for instance left to the Government to make general rules, and to frame regulations favouring one community as against others, favouring one group of districts as against others, for various considerations. But the Government should not interfere with the discretion of the Commission in individual cases. The Services Commission have put this idea well in their report: ‘ It was pointed out in the Commission’s report for the previous year that the setting aside of the Commission’s recommendations, when there is merely a difference of opinion, appears incompatible with the objects for which the Commission was established and may go far to defeat those objects as political influences become more active.’ I hope the Government will realize their responsibility before they interfere with individual selections made by the Commission. Various instances are given by the Commission where such interference is made. They think that these are instances in which the Government ought not to have interfered. I really cannot understand why preference should have been given to the lady hailing from an Indian State when qualified candidates are available in British India itself, on the ground that the Government had already promised her: If so, the Government should not have asked the Commission at all. It may be that she was educated at the expense of the Government; she might have been given a scholarship. She might thank the Government for this foolishness but that is no reason why she should have been appointed especially when a lady from British India was available. This is a point of great importance, because we find that the practice in Indian States especially in the south—Mysore, Travancore and recently in the Nizam’s Dominions also—is not to give appointments to British Indians, unless they are driven to do so for want of qualified candidates. That may be a very wise rule. Why should not then, this Government also adopt that rule, as far as candidates are available? I do not believe there is

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any dearth of candidates. If the Commission is to serve any useful purpose—it ought to serve a really useful purpose in the case of democratic Governments—the Government ought not to interfere with the selections made by the Commission or else, why should Government spend a lakh of rupees for three officers with a big establishment? It is possible the Commission may commit mistakes now and then, as the Government may also do. The chief idea of setting up the Commission is to see that political influences ought not to play in the matter of selection of candidates. When the Government are not usually satisfied with the selections made by the Services Commission, the better course will be to dispense with the services of the Commission altogether. It is, then, for the Government to advise His Excellency the Governor to dispense with the services of the Commission. But so long as the personnel is retained, I do not think that the Government would be wise in interfering with individual selections. We want a Commission on which we can depend for the selection of candidates free from political and other influences. I hope the Government realize that aspect of the matter.

“There is a lot which the Government can and ought to do in the matter of these selections made by the Commission. I am one of those who have been complaining very often that the Ceded districts have been very much neglected in the matter of appointments. Our position is growing worse. The Government have adopted the policy of giving some preference to backward communities in the matter of appointments, as against advanced communities; the backward districts should be shown similar preference. This is one of the directions in which the Government ought to interfere by issuing general instructions. This is only a question of favouring some communities or districts as against others for specific good reasons and not of interfering with individual selections, which ought not to be welcomed. Unhappily a number of officials and lawyers of other places come to the Ceded districts; they are after all birds of passage they earn money in the Ceded districts and then settle down in other districts. A number of people occupy Government appointments whose sojourn in the Ceded districts is only temporary. Their sons and relations are considered to belong to these districts and are selected for the appointments. What I want to draw attention to is that where preference is to be shown, only candidates who really belong to the Ceded districts should be given some preference. I would therefore appeal to the Government to frame a rule instructing the Services Commission to see that so long as candidates belonging to those districts are available, candidates from other districts are not to be appointed in those districts.

“There is another hardship which I want to bring to the notice of the Government and which has not yet been brought to their notice; it is a very serious hardship, and it is concerning the question of age-limit. Complaint has been made by some hon. Members that, even when candidates have been selected, they are not appointed if at the time of the appointment, they have passed the prescribed age. There may be

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some justification for doing so. If for instance the Government have put any age restriction that at the time of the appointment, a candidate should be, say, 25 or 26 or 27 years of age, and if any candidate has passed that age at the time of the actual appointment, that may be a good reason if that candidate is rejected. But in the following instance there is no such justification and the rule causes much hardship. I think the Government can and ought to do something to remedy that hardship. I shall refer to the particular instance. For the recent selection of candidates for upper subordinate services in the Agricultural department, the age fixed by the Government for candidates at the time of appointment was 27 years. But when the Services Commission published the notification inviting applications for these appointments, they stated that candidates should not be above that age—27 years on 30th June 1934. If the selections are made, there is every chance of the selected candidates being appointed before 30th June 1934. I was informed that there was every chance of these candidates, at least some of them, being appointed by the Government before 30th June 1934. When such is the case I do not understand why the Services Commission should advertise that candidates should not be above a particular age on 30th June 1934. There is every chance of the candidates selected being appointed before they attain the prescribed age of 27. I hope the Government will take note of this point and issue general instructions to the Commission. As a matter of fact, it was brought to my notice that in the case of two candidates they would have been eligible for selection by the Commission, if only 29th June instead of 30th, was fixed and if they were selected they would have been appointed by the Government before they completed the prescribed age of 27. If the candidates are above the prescribed age at the time of appointment, it may not be helped, but it is not advisable to reject candidates even at the time of selection on account of this rule, this arbitrary rule that a candidate should be of a particular age on a fixed date. The only restriction that ought to be imposed, if at all, is that at the time of the actual appointment, a candidate should not be above a particular age.

“ Another point which I want to refer to is of very great importance. At page 11 of the report it is stated that ‘ the Government have after consultation with the Commission directed that, other things being equal, the status of a candidate’s family and his family connexions should be taken into account in selecting candidates for appointment otherwise than by competitive examination.’ I thought that this principle of giving preference to relations of persons who have been or are in service of the Government, had been given up. In the matter of appointments, I think, that a provision like this is likely to result in a great deal of mischief and abuse. In these days of democracy, talent is not wanting in poor people, in the sons of agriculturists, in persons whose parents are not in Government service or can lay claim to any aristocratic birth. The history of competitive examinations shows that the majority of persons who top the lists come from very poor families with no social

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pretensions; they are not persons whose parents are aristocrats or Government servants."

The House adjourned for lunch. .

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" I do not believe, Sir, it is the intention of the Government to create a governing caste. The spirit of this rule, viz., that other things being equal, where there are no competitive examinations for selection of candidates, family connexions and social status should be taken into account, would mean that the Government propose to create a governing caste. The actual words used, 'social status' and 'family connexions' are very vague. It is very difficult to understand what they mean. Does it mean that we the Members of the Legislative Council are men of high social status? Or is it meant that members of the families of zamindars, big landholders owning thousands of acres are of high social status? Or again, are the sons of all or any Government officials men of high social status? Anyway, the underlying idea seems to be to prevent the sons of poor people, of the ordinary ryot, from holding positions in Government service. It comes to that practically. In other words, the effect of this rule would be that sons of Government officials alone would be preferred. I think, Sir, even to-day there is a provision in the application forms to show how a candidate is connected with Government officials. I do not know whether there is any significance in that provision; apparently there is. After all, Sir, are the sons or relations of Government officials alone safer to be employed in Government service? If that is the real intention, I should at once condemn it. I do not, however, believe it is the intention. Apart from that, nobody can say that intellect is inherited from father to son. I am not much of a believer in heredity; and there is a proverb in Telugu about 'Panditha putras' which suggests that the sons of highly intellectual people are generally idiots. There are many instances in which the fathers of highly intellectual people can never lay claim to great intellectual attainments. If we take the instances of those who have passed the Indian Civil Service or the Home Civil Service examinations, it will be clear that there is nothing like heredity in intellect. Even in respect of administrative skill, we find there is little chance of the skill being inherited from generation to generation. I think, Sir, any effort on the part of the Government to make this a sort of statutory rule would be very dangerous. The fact that in cases where competitive examinations are held and selections made on that basis, these considerations do not apply, clearly shows that after all even in the opinion of the Government there cannot be much behind these 'family connexions' or 'social status' for purposes of Government service. The Government themselves do not seem to attach much importance to 'family connexions' and 'social status' in the case of those who pass the competitive examinations. Probably the reason why the Government wants to introduce this principle now is to enable the Public Services Commission to make selections easily from out of the

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very large number of applicants. Naturally, when the number of applications is very large, the Commission may find it difficult to choose. But the applications can easily be sorted out in such a way as to weed out all those who are below the average.

“ There is one other thing, Sir, which I want to refer to. Much is really made of the competitive examination. There are no doubt certain services where an intellectual test may probably be the best test; but there are very many services where the intellectual test is almost a failure. In an executive branch, you very often find that men who topped the list in the examinations are absolute failures; while at the same time you find people in certain services, with no high intellectual attainments, turning out excellent work. For instance, take the Police force. What is the nature of intellectual work there? Men of average intellectual attainments seem to be much better fitted for occupying such posts. Probably in services such as the Financial Service or the Accounts Service, etc., a good mathematician will be a necessity. Even in the Educational Service, not very often do you find that the intellectual man is always a success; sometimes average men have contributed a great deal to the knowledge of the world. So, I say there are more services than one where intellectual tests are a failure. As my friend from South Kanara put it, these competitive examinations have come into being because politicians at one time used to reward the services of their friends for their help in the political field by offering appointments. It was thought that these examinations were a way out of the evil consequences of such a ‘spoils system’; but we have learnt that it is not an unmixed good. Some means must be adopted to get over the difficulty. In my view, there must be some wise combination of an intellectual test, with a view to weed out men below the average and a test to judge other qualities which go to make up an administrator.

“ I want to make one suggestion in this connexion which I think will commend itself at least to some hon. Members here. Though I strongly supported this institution of the Public Services Commission at the time it came into being, on the ground that it was better to have a body which would be outside all political influences, I regret to say that I hear lots of complaints against the way in which the Public Services Commission do their business. Those complaints may be well-founded or ill-founded; but all the same I must give vent to the feeling that is entertained, that the selections made by the Commission have not generally been satisfactory. What is wrong and where it is wrong, I am not however in a position to say; it is for the Government to find it out—whether it is in the rules they have framed for the guidance of the Commission or in the personnel of the Commission itself, or some where else. Anyway there is a common feeling that the selections have not been satisfactory. The Commission, like Cæsar’s wife, should be above suspicion. I can, of course, understand that there is great difficulty in the matter of making the selections, especially when there are a huge number of candidates of whom one is almost as good as the other, and it is likely on that account, there is what is called

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'dakshinyam' and favouritism coming into play. Instead of applying these tests of 'family connexions' and 'social status,' and instead of having this sort of interview—I believe most of the interviews by the Commission are slipshod—it would probably be much more satisfactory, in making selection, to reject the number who are considered to be below the average in the first instance, then pick out the very best few for selection, and then cast lots among the rest of those who have practically the same qualifications. Suppose you have about 100 applications for four posts; instead of leaving it to the whim and fancy of the Commission to pick and choose in their own way, it may be possible to easily reject 50 applications as being below the standard, pick out one or two as being the best and then cast lots for the two or three places amongst the rest. Why not adopt this method, I ask? If this is done, I am sure there would be more contentment and happiness among the candidates than under the present system of choosing people. I am not suggesting the casting of lots in the case of all people; I am suggesting it only in the case of the 50 people or so, each one of whom the Commission may think, to be as good as the other. So, the casting of lots will be restricted to a few only; and I think, Sir, that if this system is adopted, there would be much less discontent among the people with regard to the selection made by the Public Services Commission than under the present system.

“There is only one other matter which I would like to mention 2-45
and that is that the Government appear to be more humane than is p.m.
necessary. I really believe that the Services Commission itself is in many cases more humane than Heads of Departments, such as in matters of fines, suspensions and dismissals. I thought that ordinarily the Heads of Departments were rather very severe and it was probably for that purpose that the Commission were given power to deal with such cases. In a number of cases, it was found that the Services Commission were very sympathetic in their decision and Government seemed to be more sympathetic in matters in which they ought to be much less sympathetic. Unless, therefore, Government come to know of any breach of the rules or bad faith on the part of the Commission in performing their duties, I am afraid the efficiency of the system would be spoiled by such interference. I must impress once more on the Government the fact that, if the Services Commission is to function properly for the purpose for which it is intended, it is much better that Government do not interfere with their individual selections; and there are a number of directions in which Government can interfere, viz., by way of framing rules for regulating appointments and they ought to be content with that. If, on the other hand, the Government are not generally satisfied with the selections made by the Services Commission, let them advise His Excellency the Governor to change the personnel, instead of interfering with the decision of the Commission.”

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—“Mr. President, Sir, I think I must congratulate the Services Commission on

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the very frank report that they have placed in our hands this year. The basic principle on which this Commission was instituted was that the question of appointments to the public services should be above party politics and political influences. Even a cursory reading of the report reveals to us the fact that it is not at all as it ought to be; numerous cases where Government have interfered with the Commission's decision without showing any reason therefor have been brought to our notice in this report. I do not want to enter into the details of the several cases described in the report, but I believe they are only a few of the very numerous cases which do not find a place in it. So far as the interference of the Government in not giving effect to the recommendations of the Services Commission is concerned, all these cases reveal the fact that Government have not given any good reason therefor. For instance, in one case where a British Indian candidate who was selected by the Commission was not appointed and the appointment was given by the Government to an Indian State candidate, it is said, that the reason for rejecting the Commission's nomination in this case was that the candidate appointed by them had been awarded a scholarship with the specific intention that she should later on be appointed to the post in question; but as the Commission has rightly pointed out, if the Government had already come to this determination, it is not evident why the Commission was called upon to make a selection. I do not think there will be even one among my hon. Friends who will dispute the contention of the Commission. If Government had really made a promise like that, they could have straight-away given the appointment to their candidate. Why should they have gone to the expense and trouble of asking the Commission to call for applications and make the applicants spend money in obtaining medical certificates and appearing before the Commission and undergo the farce of a selection. I do not think the Commission is without much work and why should they tax the Commission unnecessarily for a thing already decided upon it is not given to us to know. Anyhow, even otherwise, I would point out that the Government have absolutely no business to make any promise of that sort. Even in another connexion, I have heard the Government have come forward with the apology that they had promised a certain contract to a certain party however more profitable the other tenders might have been. This case also seems to be one of that sort. I would therefore submit to the House that it is not fair or proper that Government should make any such promises, and if they choose to do so, it is not at all right that they should send such cases for the farce of a selection by the Commission, because after all their selection is not going to be upheld by the Government, unless the Commission happen to select the very same person as the Government have in their mind. So also, with reference to the other appointment of part-time lecturer in Geography.

“ Sir, another point which I would like to touch in this connexion is the question of age-limit for Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians, Muhammadans and other minority communities. Here, I must

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certainly say that the extension of the age-limit to 27 years is certainly very reasonable for the ordinary services, but I must, at the same time, point out, that fixing 1936 as the period after which the concession will cease will not at all suit the requirements of the minority communities concerned. It is common knowledge that all these minority communities take to their education rather late in life; particularly it is the case with the Muslims, because in this community, the common practice is to send the children first to their Mukhtabkhanas to have religious education and it is only after they get some religious education that their attention is directed to the ordinary schools, so that when they begin to attend the ordinary schools, they are ten years or even twelve years of age. So, when they start going to these schools at such a late stage, it is not easy to expect them to complete their School Final or other examinations at an early age, at any rate, as early as the boys of other communities. Similar, I should think, is the case of the other minority communities who take to education only very late. In these circumstances, it is absolutely necessary that the concession should be extended at least for ten years, if not for twenty years.

"In this connexion, another point to which I would like to draw the attention of the Government is, in the matter of appointments to the services in the Veterinary department, Agricultural department and the Engineering department. I should submit that these students having a special course of five years to go through, must be given special exemption—at least students coming from the minority communities—for the reasons stated already. For them, the age-limit should be raised at least to 30 instead of 27, in the case of appointments to the departments requiring special training extending over a period of about five years.

"Next I would like to say a word about the fees prescribed for the medical certificates. It has been rightly pointed out by the Commission that the 'Local Government proposed to increase the fee for medical examination for certificates of physical fitness from Rs. 7-8-0 to Rs. 16 in the case of candidates for Provincial services and invited the Commission's views on the proposal. No reasons were advanced in support of the suggestion. The Commission stated that as candidates had to pay a fee of Rs. 20 on application, it was inadvisable to enhance the fee on medical certificates. The Local Government, nevertheless, agreed to the adoption of a fee of Rs. 16 for the grant of certificates of physical fitness.' It is indeed very cruel on the part of the Government to have raised the fee for medical certificates from Rs. 7-8-0 to Rs. 16 in the face of the objection pointed out by the Commission. It is all the more cruel particularly in these hard times when the whole world is undergoing a financial crisis and the suffering is particularly acute in the Madras Presidency. It is therefore urgently necessary that Government should be pleased to reconsider their decision and go back to the original scale of fee and cancel the present rate.

"On the whole, Sir, I would like to point out that having regard to the cases referred to in the report where Government have sought to interfere with the decisions of the Commission, such

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a practice must be put an end to in the future, because, as I said at the beginning, such interference with the Commission's selection is an interference with the basic principle of the appointment of the Commission itself. It is to avoid the play of politics and political influences in the matter of appointments that the Commission was set up and it will be going against that sane principle if Government were to interfere with the selections and recommendations made by the Commission.

“ It was only just this morning that the Hon. the Finance Member told us in his Budget speech that ‘ We are now approaching the time when Provincial Autonomy is to be granted, and it is the earnest desire not only of the Government but of every well-wisher of Madras and of India that the scheme, whatever it may be, should be launched under the most favourable conditions.’ So also, I would similarly state in connexion with the working of the Services Commission, that we must also make a favourable start in the matter of appointments to the public services also. Having appointed a Commission whose sole duty it is to select proper candidates who will fill the various posts well, it is not proper that Government should set a bad example of unnecessarily interfering with the selections made by that body. Even now as we are on the eve of great political reforms, when the whole Government—instead only a part of it, is to be transferred to popular control, it is absolutely necessary that Government should set the House in order by setting up good precedents which will be a good guide for the future responsible Government to come. In this connexion I must point out that the interference has come not only from the Transferred Half, but also from the Reserved Half. The Commission has pointed out a case in which the recommendation of the Commission, in regard to the punishment of a Sub-Magistrate was not upheld. I had thought that it was the Transferred Half that was susceptible to political or other influences, but that the Reserved Half would not be a party to the setting aside of the recommendations of its own department. It is therefore regrettable to note that there are cases of interference even from the Reserved Half of Government. All the same, whether it is the Reserved Half or the Transferred Half, we must even from now start setting a good example for the Government that is to come in the very near future. It is therefore just and proper that such interferences should be avoided in future.

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“ One word more, Sir. My hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, was telling us that instead of allowing the Commission to make a regular selection, he would rather have the Commission make a preliminary selection and then decide by lot. Lottery, Sir, so far as I understand it, is a scorn of human reason. I do not think if you want the Commission to exercise all their powers of reasoning and selection in selecting proper candidates for posts, it is not at all desirable to make a suggestion of the sort that my hon. Friend has made, particularly in the matter of selection to the services, because here it is not everybody that is fit. As he has pointed out, no doubt out of hundred applicants at least fifty may be eligible for the post concerned. Fifty are

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eligible for the post only so far as educational qualifications and other tests are concerned. But there are so many other things which the Commission is the best authority to note, find out and appreciate in candidates that appear before them. It may be that the candidates appear before the Commission for only one minute or five minutes, but all the same, from the very demeanour of the candidates and from the way in which each candidate is able to answer questions put to him on the spur of the moment when he appears before the Commission and in so many other ways also, the Commission consisting as it does of very responsible officers is the best authority to make the best selection possible out of the candidates appearing before them.

“ Lastly, Sir, considering the amendments proposed by my hon. Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, I perfectly agree with him except with regard to the question of the Secretary; I am not holding any brief for the Secretary, but I must point out that in this matter it must be left entirely to the Commission and the Government. The Commission and the Government know very well who is best fitted for the work to be done and it is for them to decide whether a Secretary should continue for one year or for five years or ten. It is not just to lay down a rule to the effect that he shall have to vacate after a term of three years. It is not like posts in other departments of the public service, for instance that of a District Collector or a District Judge where one may develop certain prejudices or partialities and his continuance in the district for more than three years must be avoided. But the Secretary to the Commission holds a different office altogether and there is no scope for his developing any partialities or prejudices. The rule of rotation is therefore out of place in the case of the Secretary to the Commission.”

Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NATUDU:—“ Sir, I think this is the third report that we have received from the Public Services Commission about their working. If there had been any doubts about the usefulness and utility of a Commission of this sort, I think this report bears ample testimony that this Province has done the best thing in having set up the Public Services Commission (hear, hear). The report is a well-reasoned one and contains details of a very important character and shows to the public how it is working and what reception it is having at the hands of the Government in respect of the various matters dealt with. I therefore congratulate the Commission on the splendid report that they have presented to this House and the way in which they have discharged their duties, so far as the electors' representatives in this House are concerned. At the same time, Sir, I am sorry that the Government have not seen their way to place their case also before the Council when presenting this report. It may be, Sir, that the Government had very good reasons for differing from some of the recommendations of the Commission, but it would be to the advantage of this House and also to the advantage of the Government if they, before placing the report on the floor of this House, also explain what reasons they have got for differing from particular recommendations of the Commission.

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We have taken up practically a day in discussing the report of the Commission upon the materials placed before us by the Commission itself and stigmatising the Government for this and that, and possibly after we have finished, the Government Member in charge will rise up and begin to reply, and there will be no chance for us to speak upon what he says on behalf of the Government and we will be no better than we were. I would therefore seriously urge for the earnest consideration of the Government that, if the object of this report is to be fully served as provided by the statute, it is not merely the report that should be placed on the table of the House, but the Government should append their remarks on the various points raised therein, so that a lot of unnecessary criticism possibly due to inadequate information may be avoided. I hope, Sir, that the Government will do that in future. Not only that, I would proceed further and state that after these criticisms and the remarks made by hon. Members in this House, the Government should finally pass orders for the information of the public, so that we might know to what extent remarks made on the floor of this House have had effect, or in what respects Government propose to improve matters. These, Sir, are some of the suggestions which occur to me, and I think that, if they are adopted, the object of a report like this being presented to the House would be effectuated and the report will serve the purpose for which it is intended.

“ Now, Sir, coming to the points at issue, there are one or two valuable suggestions made by the Commission itself. They point out that the Act requires amendment in certain respects, that the necessity for such amendments had been brought to the notice of the Government and that the Government had not taken steps in that direction. One of them is stated in paragraph 34 of the report with reference to section 7 of the Public Services Commission Act. For selecting candidates for promotion to the provincial service from the subordinate services the Public Services Commission is asked to recommend or give their opinion about the names. But the section, as it now stands, gives the ultimate power to the heads of departments to choose persons from whom the Public Services Commission has to make their own recommendations. The result is that, if a number of people are entitled to be promoted or at least have their claims for promotion considered and if the head of the department does not choose all the names but chooses only some of them to be sent up, the Public Services Commission now seems to have no power at all to consider whether the names of those who were omitted have been rightly omitted or not. In paragraph 34 of their report, they refer to this and say:—

‘ The Commission’s difficulty in drawing up lists of candidates for selection for the provincial services from the corresponding subordinate services continues in the absence of specific powers enabling it to consider, while drawing up those lists, the cases of all persons eligible for such selection. The Commission is obliged to confine its recommendations to the claims of those nominated by the head of the department even though those recommendations involve the supersession of senior officers with records as good as those of the officers nominated. The Commission’s examination of such proposals is bound to be ineffective so long as it is not empowered as stated above, and it urges the need for expediting the amendment of the Act in this respect.’

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I hope, Sir, the Government will see their way to accept that recommendation and bring in an amendment and see as far as possible that this object is carried out. If really the balance is to be held evenly with regard to all people who are entitled to be selected and whose claims have anyhow to be considered, it would be a farce to say that the head of the department could overlook the claims of some people and the Commission should consider only the claims of those whose names have been sent up by him and not of those whose claims have to be considered.

"Then, Sir, there is another direction in which amendment of the Act is necessary. You will see, Sir, that the object of constituting the Public Services Commission was to see that, as far as possible, purity of administration is secured and the best material for manning the public services is obtained, free from all political influences and free from all suspicion of any political influence. Now, so far as the Government are concerned, they have got the power to appoint servants or officers who are paid either wholly or in part from provincial revenues. They have also got, under various enactments, power to appoint officers to serve in quasi-public bodies like the municipalities, district boards and other agencies. Now, if in the case of those people who are appointed to serve in local bodies, boards or municipalities, the pay to some extent or other is provided from the provincial revenues, then the Public Services Commission has a right to select those candidates. For instance, if it is a question of the selection of a district board engineer or a public health officer or a health inspector to serve under a local body, it is the Public Services Commission that is to select the officer, the reason being that the pay of those officers is met either wholly or in part from provincial revenues. But of late the local body has been given the power by legislative enactments to appoint officers to certain important posts under it. But that power is delegated to the Government with a view to take it out of the influence of local factions and other things and also to see that the best and most efficient men should be got for these offices. I refer to the case of electrical engineers under municipalities, and similar other posts created from time to time. If there is a genuine demand on the part of this House or on the part of the public that some of these pivotal appointments in local boards should be outside the pale of local party feelings, it is with a view to get the best possible men for the posts. Again, I may point out that, in the matter of these officers, the Government do not pay a single pie, but they stipulate that the local body should pay the whole of their salaries. But, I submit that, that by itself should not be a sufficient reason to take these appointments out of the pale of the Public Services Commission, who must have a right to select such officers also. I therefore think that it is high time that, while the Government are keen that the officers who serve under them and are paid out of the provincial revenues are selected by the Public Services Commission, they must be equally keen in the matter of the selection of officers whose pay may not under statutory enactments come from provincial funds, in view of the

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fact that their status and emoluments do not in some cases at least fall below those of the officers, clerks and others whom now the Public Services Commission are asked to select. It is therefore necessary that the Act should be amended in this respect also, that is, that in all cases of officers, whether their salaries are met from the finances of the provincial Government or the local bodies, the power of selection should be vested in the Public Services Commission. I find that there is a difficulty now, because the Act provides for the Public Services Commission stepping in only in cases where something is paid from provincial finances, and therefore it has no power with regard to all the appointments in the local boards and municipalities and other quasi-public bodies. This is a state of things which, I hope, the Government will take occasion to remedy and see that the Act is amended in a suitable manner as early as possible.

“The next point that I would submit, is this. My Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, has stated that there is some amount of discontent about the way in which the Public Services Commission is functioning, though he could not say what the ground is for it. I should say, Sir, that the purpose for which this Commission is constituted and the work that it does are such that they must leave some amount of discontent in somebody or other, whoever may be the selecting authority. If only we turn to the appendix to this report we will find that the number of candidates applying for posts, where 47 had to be selected, was 655. And I do not think, whether it is the Public Services Commission or any other body or agency, that the selections made would be satisfactory to everybody; there will be people who are disappointed because they are not selected or their particular communities have not been given proper representation. I think the Public Services Commission owe a duty so far as the candidates who apply to them are concerned, to tell them as quickly as possible which of them are likely to be selected so that they might be ready to join service or make their own arrangements. We find here in the report a list of offices for which the Public Services Commission called for applications, interviewed candidates and made selections. And with regard to reserve sub-registrars, at page 27 of the report we find that for 20 vacancies, 751 applied and 681 appeared for interview. As against the recommendations of the Public Services Commission I find in the annual report the remark that the final selection is pending orders of Government. The report is for 1932-33 and we are now in February 1934. Two years have now practically elapsed and I think it is only fair to the candidates who have applied that they should know exactly what the result of their application is. At any rate, I hope, Sir, had only the Government made a few observations thereon with regard to this, a lot of misconception would have been avoided and we, the Members of this Council, would feel satisfied and a lot of animadversion would be avoided. It is therefore necessary that as soon as an examination is over there must be some kind of publication so far as the candidates are concerned as to who might be selected whatever may be the period of time required by Government for such selection so that the candidates might at least know that they

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have a chance. In that direction, I know there is a discontent with regard to the work of the Commission. It is one with regard to the observance of the formalities by the Commission. I hope Government will see their way to be helpful in this regard.

“ The next point I wish to urge is one which is a potent source of discontent from the point of view of the public and that is with regard to the way in which the candidates are posted. We find from the report that more than 2,800 candidates have passed the examination and the several Collectors and several officers in the district have to select people holding S.S.L.C. certificates for posts carrying the lowest salary and the rest to the higher posts. So far as that is concerned, what exactly is the procedure laid down with a view to see that district interests are satisfied and the district men are satisfied? We have no inkling in the report as to that. I know there is a large volume of feeling that for these selections people from all the districts sit and a list is prepared from out of them. The result is that sometimes we find that in a very backward district no people are selected for appointments in subordinate offices and the people from outside districts are suggested while a number of district men who are eligible could not go high up in the competition. I think that so far as these offices are concerned, while it is necessary to select the candidates for posts, it is not necessary to select only men at the top. You can have a sort of list prepared of the candidates who belong to the district arranged in the order of seniority in the competitive examination and you will be satisfying the requirements of the district as you would be giving preference to them over other people from other districts. Sir, in the report of the Services Commission, prominent attention has been directed to the fact that according to the Government Order candidates from Indian States would be considered only if qualified and suitable British-Indian candidates were not forthcoming in required numbers. If it is extended further, it is but legitimate for the district people to say with regard to the small appointments that district people should have preference over non-district people and that, as far as possible, while there are district people who applied and sat for the examination and satisfied the tests, they should be given preference in their own district to the exclusion of those who might get more marks and who therefore have no better claims to be in those districts. There is another consideration which I wish to take note of. For posts carrying a salary of Rs. 35 people from one district are taken to another. People from Malabar are asked to serve in the Ceded districts or northern districts and people from Tanjore are asked to serve in the Anantapur district. I am sure if the Members of the Treasury Benches can speak out, I think they will admit that the Collectors themselves are complaining that they are asked to get persons from other districts who do not know the language of the district. I think it is better that the Commissioners and the Government put their heads together and get so far as each district is concerned a list prepared for that district showing who will be entitled to appointments in that district.

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"These are some of the remarks that I wish to make and I hope, Sir, that the Public Services Commission would continue to do the splendid work they are doing, that the Government would realize the value of these Commissions and also that the public will realize and appreciate the tone of the Commission and the Government without taking the few remarks to heart will see their way to strengthen their hands by adopting the suggestions in the several directions and see that there is no room for criticism. All that the public expect is not that the recommendations of the Commission should be accepted as sanctified but see whether they are based on reason."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I strongly support the amendment moved by Mr. Venkatachalam Chetti except the amendment No. 3 and the amendment No. 5, the latter because I am sure the Minister will be satisfactorily replying. Sir, in the report of the Commission, it is said the candidates are committing grammatical mistakes, spelling mistakes and that their answers in some cases are mere jumble of words. If one were to take into consideration what sort of education is imparted in the elementary and secondary schools, then, these mistakes would not be surprising to us. The students do not know where to place the subject and where to place the object and where to place the predicate. I hope the Education Minister will delegate to his subordinate officers all redtapism and routine and give his full attention to educational problems and initiate educational policies. We cannot but go back to the old system of imparting education. At least we should meet it half way. Sir C. V. Raman and Sir Radhakrishnan were all of the old schools. Can you produce now one Ramanujam—late Ramanujam, I mean,—from our system of education?"

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member may reserve his remarks till he comes to the Budget Demand on Education."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"I am only speaking as to how to prepare candidates for Madras Services Commission examinations. Coming to the report, I may say the report is very meagre. It is neither informing nor explanatory. Are we to understand that in the appointment of the provincial officers communal rotation is not observed? The appointments are not arranged according to communities and moreover, as Mr. Muniswami Nayudu said, we want the appointments to be made districtwar. I wish the Services Commission had said so and so belongs to such and such a community. I wish that examinations are held in various districts for the candidates of the corresponding district and appointments are given to them in that district. What is the good of dumping 33 Malayalees and 10 Tamils in the Andhra country when there were 44 vacancies to be filled. I think, Sir, the Services Commission must submit the report in an informing way as to the names of those selected and as to the district from which they are coming and the community to which they belong."

"Then, Sir, the selection of the Deputy Superintendents of Police has recently been transferred to the Commission. The selection was

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being very well done under Sir Mahomed Usman. Only in cases where the heads of departments were not doing their duty well in this respect that a transfer to the Commission is necessary. Sir Usman was doing his duty very well. He was useful to all communities and I do not know why this should be taken away from him now.

“ Then with regard to the subordinate services, except with regard to the women's services, there is no other department where there is a dearth of candidates. If 20 candidates are wanted, about ten times the number are the applicants. It would have been better in this report that the Commission had mentioned the community, the district and the qualification of the people selected, and if possible, even the names. I want this to be done in the same way as the Chief Minister, Raja of Bobbili, issues Government Orders for the admission of students into the Medical College and Schools. This will give us an idea as to how many from each district and from each community with what qualification were available and were selected. This will also give an idea of the educationally advanced and educationally backward communities. These things are the omissions in the report.

“ Then, Sir, in selecting a Chemical Analyst, I want that the candidate should be an Arts graduate with a medical qualification such as a degree-holder in Chemistry with medical qualification such as M.B.C.M., or M.D. A medical man with Arts qualifications, if available, should have been preferred for the chemical assistant's place. The purely Arts graduate mechanically detects a certain thing and there it ends, but one with a medical qualification in addition knows the pros and cons of what he finds and thus he will be more useful. 3-30 p.m.

“ Now, coming to the report proper, it is said in it that the object of the Commission is to function as a body free from political influences. I ask under what influence is the Commission itself? In my opinion this is only a transference of patronage from one body to another. I know a case where a candidate having the necessary physical measurements, length and breadth and highly qualified (an M.A.) was not selected as a sub-inspector of Police nor as a sub-inspector of Excise whereas people with less qualification with less physique were selected. These cases lead one to think that it is preferable to leave this power in the hands of our Ministers and Members and Heads of Departments. At least they would have to justify their action before the Legislature.

“ In paragraph 34 of the report, the Commission suggests the amendment of sections 6, 7 and 11 of the Madras Services Commission Act. To my mind it is unnecessary to agree to this suggestion. Till the Services Commission make us develop absolute faith in them by their actions, it is impossible to agree to the amendment of these sections. We see that it is only this year that the Commission has been showing some symptom of life. It says that this year the Government was wrong and that it was right. I am sorry that the Development and Education Departments made themselves responsible for this criticism by the Commission. The Development Department need not

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have gone out of way as to first supersede the claims of two senior men and then looked about the means of justifying their action, and then promoted the next junior man and then promoted the senior out of sympathy as he was hard hit. All from the same community. The communal Government Order and the various rules should be applied without distinction to all appointments. I should be glad to have an explanation from the Hon. Minister for allowing things to happen in the manner complained of by the Commission.

“ I next come to the question of appointing a man in a Women's College by the Educational Department. (Laughter.) Nayudus, Mudaliyars and other Hindu communities who observe half purdah and not to speak of Muslim community which observes full purdah are just beginning to send their girls to women schools and colleges. I want that all arrangements should be made for these pupils feeling quite at home in the schools. This would not be the case if you appoint a man to a place in an educational institution meant purely for women. In coming to the other question of appointing a person who is not a British subject until the Native States say that their services will be open to Madrasees, we should not give preference to their men or women in our services. No doubt the whole world is a single family and we should protect the interests of the subjects of Native States. But the economic condition being what it is, we should give preference to our own men. When that is the case, to appoint an outsider on the plea that she was the recipient of a scholarship from Madras is adding insult to injury. The Madras Government has no business to give scholarship to a member of a Native State and then give her the appointment in addition.

“ I quite agree that in the case of the backward communities, minimum and not the maximum qualifications might be deemed sufficient for appointment. The increase in the case of the backward communities in respect of the age-limit has my entire support. As to others the age when they appear before the Commission through competitive examination or in person should be taken into consideration and not when they are to be confirmed in the appointments, in view of the fact that before these people are finally confirmed, for long periods they are asked to go from one corner of the Presidency to another to act in short vacancies; and when they are to be confirmed they are over-aged. In this connexion I may say that I agree with the hon. Member, Mr. Koti Reddi, in his demand for a territorial basis for the selections made by the Commission. I am sure if that is done there will be no cry for the splitting up of the Province.

“ Lastly, Sir, I suggest that there should be five members on the Commission. I have got high regard for the personnel of the Commission, as it is constituted now, but what I want is that there should be two more communities represented on it. No doubt if a gentleman like Sir Mahomed Usman is put in there, it will satisfy all communities, but there is a grievance that there should be two more members—extraordinary—from two more communities. With these few words,

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taking note of your advice, Mr. President, that I should take another opportunity to discuss the question of education imparted at present I resume my seat."

* The Hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" Mr. President, Sir, when the first report of this Commission came before this House, there was a great deal of criticism of the Commission and the view was expressed from the various sides of the House that the Commission was not necessary. I am very glad to observe that there is now practically unanimous agreement that the Commission is serving an extremely useful purpose and will continue to do so and that, in fact, it is essential under the Reformed Constitution.

" Sir, much of the criticism that has been raised this afternoon relates to the orders of the Government and to the statutory rules framed by them for which the Commission is not generally responsible, although we get their advice on them in certain respects. I will deal, as far as I can, with the points which have been raised this afternoon. The first point related to the production of medical certificates. It was suggested that the fees for medical certificates were too high and that the fees charged by commissioned medical officers of the Indian Medical Service should not have been raised from Rs. 7-8-0 to Rs. 16. As I have explained on a former occasion, that action was taken under instructions from the Government of India in order that a uniform rate might be charged for such medical certificates throughout India.

" The second point raised in this connexion was that the candidates should not be asked to pay for medical certificates or to undergo medical examination until after they had been selected by the Madras Services Commission. As the result of a similar representation made in the Council when the report for 1930-31 was under discussion, we accepted that suggestion except in respect of posts for which physical measurements are prescribed in the statutory rules or are required by the appointing authorities—I may mention for example, the case of the Police sub-inspectors—and also in respect of admission to the competitive examination for posts in the Madras Ministerial Service. We have since decided and have issued orders that, as an experimental measure for two years, candidates that are selected for the Madras Ministerial Service may be allowed to produce certificates of physical fitness after their names are approved by the Commission; so that now medical certificates have to be produced before selection, only in those cases in which certain physical measurements are required as a qualification for appointment.

" Objection was taken that the fees demanded from the applicants for selection by the Madras Services Commission and for various examinations are too high. It was suggested that the fees for selection by the Commission should be purely nominal. It was pointed out that it costs some Rs. 15,000 for a candidate to be educated up to the standard required for appearance before the Commission. I think, Sir, that the fee forms an insignificant addition to this figure.

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(Laughter.) I believe, Sir, the fees now charged are moderate on the whole. The fees for examinations were fixed, if I remember rightly, on the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee, on the ground that they should cover the costs of the examinations as far as possible. We have, however, recently directed that no examination fee should be levied in the following cases:—(1) Where a test or Government technical examination is prescribed as part of the probation or training of an officer whether recruited directly or by transfer; (2) where a test is prescribed as a qualification necessary for an officer to continue in his post without penalty; and (3) where it has been newly imposed on a person already in the service concerned. (Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar: 'In all cases, after appointment?') Yes.

“Reference was made to the Ministerial Service Rules which lay down that clerks must be qualified as typists as if it was a new qualification now inserted for the first time. As a matter of fact, Government, for some years, have been endeavouring to get clerks qualified as typists. First they offered an increase in pay to those who obtained that qualification, but, later on—it was, I think, about 4 or 5 years ago—they decided that that special remuneration should be stopped and that they should in future endeavour to get the clerks all qualified as typists, as indeed they are in England. Rules were framed in June 1931 making typewriting a qualification after a certain date. We have since amended the rules so that they do not come into force till a later date from that originally intended; because we found that the rules were not given wide enough circulation among the educational institutions. Also we found it desirable to alter the Government examinations in typewriting. We had originally prescribed a pass by the higher standard, as the lower standard examination did not contain any paper or any examination on the mechanism of the typewriter. It merely indicated capacity to type at a certain speed, and we realized that a man possessing merely a certificate of speed and no knowledge of the mechanism of a typewriter is not really fit to be in charge of a typewriter. We have therefore altered the examination syllabus so as to include the necessary examination in the mechanism of the typewriter in the lower standard and have substituted a pass by the lower standard under the new rules in the qualification for clerks. The supply of typewriters was at first restricted to a few offices. We realized that clerks in such offices would use the typewriters even if they had not passed any examination in typewriting, and at first we applied the rule only to offices to which typewriters had been supplied by Government. Now typewriters have been supplied to a large number of offices and we have now extended the rule already in force to all offices, as clerks may be transferred from one office to another. This rule does not apply to store-keepers or other members of the Ministerial Service; it applies only to clerks.

“As regards the difficulty of learning to use a typewriter, I do not think really anyone can contend that it is a very difficult art. Candidates who aspire for the post of a clerk generally have to spend a long time, sometimes several months and sometimes years after they pass

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out of school or college before they apply for selection, and they have plenty of time to get themselves qualified. I think it is not unreasonable on our part to insist on this additional qualification, which will add to their usefulness as Government servants.

"The next question with which I would like to deal is the recent order of Government regarding the consideration of the status of a candidate's relatives. It was suggested that this is not done anywhere else. I believe, as a matter of fact, this fact is taken into consideration by the Secretary of State and by the Public Services Commission of the Government of India. Before the issue of this order we consulted the Madras Services Commission, and they expressed their entire approval of the suggestion; and they further stated that even at present the application form which they have prescribed contains a column calling for information regarding the applicant's relatives, if any, in the public service, and any special service, rendered to the Government by the applicant's family, which he desires to be considered by the selecting authority and that in selecting candidates, the Commission already gives due consideration to these claims; and so they had no objection to the principle being embodied in a definite Government Order. Thus we have not really made any change in the procedure adopted by the Commission. Hitherto no complaint has been made that this procedure has led to any undesirable results so the fear entertained by some hon. Members that this is an innovation which will ultimately lead to political influences being brought to bear in the selection of candidates is without foundation.

"Objection was raised to the reduction of qualifications in regard to certain communities. As far as I can recollect, that has been actually done only in one service, and that is, in the Veterinary Service; and possibly the Hon. Minister who deals with that question will reply on that point."

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I am sorry I have not the materials at hand." (Laughter.)

The Hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"In that case, I will reply; if I remember rightly, it has been found by experience that it was difficult to recruit candidates to that service from backward communities because they could not afford the cost of the training necessary for the service; it was therefore decided to select candidates from those communities before training and to send them for training with the necessary stipends."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I just draw the Hon. Member's attention to the last sentence in paragraph 9 (a) at page 7 of the report, which runs thus—

'The Government, however, amended the rules prescribing different standards of qualification for different communities, viz., a higher standard of qualifications for Brahmans and non-Brahman (Hindus) and a lower standard of qualification for candidates belonging to other communities.'

May I know why a lower standard of qualification has been fixed to all but two communities?"

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The Hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"Paragraph 9 (a) refers to general qualifications. A higher standard of qualification has been fixed for the Brahman and non-Brahman (Hindu) communities because we have many more applicants from those two communities, than we require for our purposes, and we have fixed a higher standard, so as to restrict the number of applicants and prevent large number of persons from disappointment when they cannot get appointments. On the other hand, with regard to the other communities, we have had to fix a lower qualification, in order to get the necessary number of applicants to enable the communities to obtain adequate representation in the service."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"But that is only on paper; as a matter of fact it has not been given effect to."

The Hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"We have also raised the age-limit in favour of certain classes in certain services, on the ground that those particular backward classes usually begin their education at a later stage than the other classes and so by the time they finish their education they would have passed their twenty-fifth year. I do not think much objection has been raised on that point, but it has been suggested that we should extend this concession for at least ten years instead of for five years. It seems to me that it is sufficient for the present to try it for five years; at the end of that period the question can be re-examined."

"Representations have been made again regarding the alleged hardship caused to persons, whose names, though originally included in the Madras Services Commission's list, are struck off when they become over-age before they actually obtain an appointment. That question is now under correspondence between the Government and the Commission, and we have put forward the suggestion that the Commission should prepare a list which shall be in force only for a certain definite period, say, one year, on the principle adopted in England where the Public Service Commissioners prepare a list of candidates for the Indian Civil Service which is in force for one year only."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"I fear even such a move would not remove the hardship caused to the candidates by reason of their becoming overage before they actually get an appointment."

The Hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"I am coming to that point. The suggestion is that the candidate's name would not be removed during the year on account of his age; the age would be fixed as in England at the time of selection."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"Am I to understand that the list is to be in force for one year only?"

The Hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"Yes, and at the end of each year fresh selections will be made, so that every year you will be giving an opportunity for every candidate before he becomes overage, an opportunity to get into the public service."

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Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"Then what about those candidates, who though selected, do not get an appointment by the end of the year?"

The Hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"If they are not absorbed before the end of the year and if they do not become overage by that time, they would be eligible for re-selection. I may also mention here that in respect of candidates in the Commission's present list for the Ministerial Service, we propose to increase the age to 27 in the case of those who are qualified in typewriting.

"Representation has been made of a case, which took place very recently, in which the Madras Services Commission refused to entertain the applications of a few candidates even though they were under-age on the date of selection, on the ground that they would be becoming overage on a date of few weeks later. That is a question which is generally left to the discretion of the Commission; obviously there is no use in selecting a candidate who is going to be overage a week or so later, that is, long before he can get any chance of being appointed. That, however, is a difficulty which may be overcome if we can devise some other suitable scheme; and I may assure hon. Members that we will give the matter our careful consideration.

"My friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, referred to the injustice done to his district owing to the fact that not only persons from his district fail to get adequate representation in the public service, but that persons from other parts of the Presidency were posted to the Government offices in his district. So far as Provincial Services are concerned we cannot lay down a rule to the effect that only persons belonging to a particular district should be appointed in that district. We have however under consideration a proposal that a candidate selected for a subordinate service in a particular district should have a knowledge of the language or one of the languages of the district for which he is selected."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"May I know whether Government have got any objection to giving preference to candidates coming from the same district over others?"

The Hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"We have examined that question, and it was suggested that candidates belonging to a district should be given a few marks on that account in the competitive examination for clerks, but the Madras Services Commission were not in favour of that proposal as they feared that it would lead to the deterioration of the efficiency of the services.

"The hon. Member from the Ceded districts disagreed with the suggestion of Mr. Schamnad in favour of the extension of selection of candidates for public service by competitive examination to the other services. At present only selections for the Medical Service and the Ministerial Services are made by competitive examination. If we find that the system can be suitably applied to any other service, we shall do so. At the present moment we do not think it necessary or desirable to do so.

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"The question was raised why the Madras Services Commission does not select candidates for appointments in the offices attached to the High Court and the City Civil Courts. This is a matter which is still under consideration by the Government and is under correspondence with the High Court. It is not quite so simple as it looks, for the problem has to be considered in the light of the Letters Patent and the Madras Civil Courts Act, which confer certain powers on the High Court. The matter is still under consideration.

4 p.m.

"A suggestion has been made that the Madras Services Commission should be authorized to publish their selections. I understand that they now publish practically all their selections for subordinate services. I will see to what extent they do publish them and whether the practice can be further extended.

"It was stated that adverse remarks made in confidential reports are not now communicated to the officers concerned. I find that as long ago as 1915 orders were issued by this Government that any defects which could be remedied should be pointed out and we have recently drawn the attention of heads of departments to these orders and I have no doubt they will be carried out generally although they may have been overlooked in certain cases. We have also had under examination another matter to which reference was made, viz., the communication of the views of the Commission to the officers concerned. Sir, this is what section 17 of the Public Services Commission Act states:—

'In any case in which the advice of the Commission is sought under section 15 or 16 the record of the case shall be forwarded to the Commission and the opinion given by the Commission shall form part of the record of the case and shall be communicated to the officer or officers concerned along with the orders of the authority empowered to pass orders on the case.'

It will be apparent therefore that even under the law, as it stands, the Commission's opinion is bound to be communicated to the officers concerned."

MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"The opinion given may be a short sentence."

THE HON. SIR ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"As my hon. Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, has just pointed out, the opinion in some cases may be short stating that they agree with the opinion expressed by the head of the department or the investigating authority. So we have issued instructions as to the manner in which the Commission's opinion should be communicated to officers and they are as follows:—

'The simplest and most convenient course will of course be to communicate to the officer a copy of the letter from the Commission conveying its opinion. Such a letter will generally be self-contained and this method will also ensure accuracy but any other method of communication which ensures that the substance of the Commission's opinion is communicated to the officer in an accurate and intelligible form would be permissible. In certain cases for instance the letter from the Commission may not be self-contained and may not for that reason be intelligible unless it is read with other papers. In such cases a copy of the letter would not be sufficient and it would be necessary to communicate with the Commission's letter copies or the gist—but a complete gist—of the papers reference to which is necessary to render the Commission's letter entirely intelligible to the officers concerned.'

I think those instructions will meet that point.

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"It was suggested by my hon. Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, that the tenure of office of Secretary to the Commission should be limited to three years. That suggestion was not agreeable to my hon. Friend, Mr. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib. However, that is a matter which is entirely within the discretion of the Commission under the Act and Government have no power to interfere with their discretion. On the whole it is not desirable that Government should have power to interfere with the discretion of the Commission as regards their selection of this officer or pressure may be brought on the Commission for political reasons.

"It was suggested that when the Government placed the Commission's annual report on the table of the House they should place with it an exhaustive statement dealing with the cases to which the Commission has drawn attention and also their reasons for not accepting the Commission's recommendations. At present it is the usual practice to communicate to the Commission the reasons for our decision. It is possible that this has not been done in all cases, but I think it is likely it will be done regularly in the future. I feel sure that if our reasons are communicated to the Commission, they will in fairness to the Government, include the Government's reasons in their report. However when the time for the issue of the next report comes, I will examine this point, and see whether it is desirable to attach to the report any other particulars that may be necessary for the information of the House.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Nayudu, drew my attention to the desirability of amending the Act so as to make it obligatory on the heads of departments to send up the names of all the applicants for promotion instead of only a few. He also suggested—this is a new suggestion—that the Commission should be compelled to select candidates for services under local bodies."

Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"In the case of those men who are appointed by the Government . . ."

The Hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"Sir, a Bill for the amendment of the Act is now under consideration of the Government and I hope it will meet the first point. I will consider the second suggestion.

"Sir, when the Commission first came into being we had certain difficulties to contend with, but I am satisfied that these difficulties are gradually disappearing. I have already referred to the fact that the Commission has established itself in the opinion of the public as a very necessary and very useful institution. At one time, I think, the heads of departments and others were suspicious of interference by the Commission and were afraid that it would upset the efficiency of the departments. More recently the heads of departments and the Commission got into much closer touch with each other and it is more generally realized by the services themselves and also by the heads of departments that the Commission is there not to affect adversely the efficiency of the departments but to protect the interests of the members of the

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services. Of course, it takes some time for new ideas to be appreciated. It is true that we have had to amend our rules in certain cases with retrospective effect, because things had been done in a certain way overlooking the rules and the amendments were necessary to prevent undue hardship to individuals; we recognize however that it is generally undesirable to amend rules with retrospective effect for such reasons.

"The Commission has been doing very useful work and I should like to acknowledge the very great assistance the Commission has given us in various ways. They have always been willing to give us their best advice not only in connexion with the selection of candidates for the public service and with disciplinary cases but also in connexion with the framing of rules. At the present time the rules are under general revision and we hope to put them in a better form than in the past. When that is done, many of the difficulties which we were experiencing in the working of the rules will be obviated. I am sure the Commission will have a very useful career in future and that their work will be fully appreciated."

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, in paragraph 22-A of the Report of the Commission, mention is made of an instance in which selection was made to the Madras Educational Service in contravention of the advice of the Commission. Of course it is true that the candidate selected for appointment to that service was not recommended by the Commission. There were two applicants for the post. One of them, who was ultimately selected by the Government, was in Government service for some time and was sent on a Government scholarship to England for being trained for the very post to which she has now been appointed by the Government; and such training cost the Government the large sum of Rs. 30,000. Her qualifications also are much superior to those of the candidate who was selected by the Services Commission. The candidate selected by the Government was a Second-class Honours Graduate in Natural Science of the Madras University and after she was sent to England she took the B.Sc. degree (Hons.) of the London University in the first class. On the other hand the candidate who was selected by the Commission was only a Third-class Honours Graduate of the Madras University. When the advice of the Commission came up before the Government, it appeared to the Government that the rejection of a candidate with such superior qualifications required some explanation and the Government therefore amongst other matters placed this great difference between the qualifications of the two candidates before the Commission and asked them why they rejected the candidate with the superior qualifications and selected one with such inferior qualifications. I may also mention to this House that for a professorship in a first-grade college a Third-class Honours Graduate is seldom considered suitable and yet that was the qualification of the candidate selected by the Commission.

"And when this point was specifically put to the Commission, the reply they sent did not throw much enlightenment on the question referred

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to them. They were not prepared to disclose anything further than that this difference in the qualifications was present to their minds when they made the selection. When the Government got this brief and unhelpful reply from the Services Commission, they thought that this was a case in which deviation from the advice of the Commission would certainly be justifiable. The Services Commission wanted apparently to rest their decision mainly on the technical ground that the candidate chosen by them was a British Indian subject while the candidate rejected by them was a subject of an Indian State. (An hon. Member: 'What about family connexions?') We have no information either from the Services Commission or from any other source on this point. Family connexion apparently was not one of the considerations which influenced the Services Commission. With regard to this technical question, it appeared to the Government that it was more academic than real. As I have already told hon. Members of this House, this candidate was in the service of the Government when she was sent to England by the Government and there was this very important fact that Rs. 30,000 of Government's money had been spent on giving her that equipment which would make her most suitable for the appointment to which Government ultimately selected her. The Services Commission also said that the previous sanction of the Government should have been obtained before this candidate applied to the Services Commission. It looked to the Government that this technical objection had not much substance in it as she was already in the service of Government and as she had been selected by the Government for being trained in England with a view to ultimate employment in Government service. It seemed obvious that the Government expected her to apply for employment in the Madras Government Service. If she was not to be given such sanction and was to be refused permission to apply for service under Madras Government, I wonder why she should have been sent to England for being trained. She gave a bond to the Secretary of State undertaking to serve the Madras Government for a period of five years. Well, if sanction to apply for service under the Madras Government was going to be refused, where was the need for a bond on these terms to the Secretary of State? The Government therefore came to the conclusion that if not in express terms at least impliedly, there was permission given to this candidate to apply for appointment to the post. The Services Commission Report mentions it as a criticism of the Government order that it is said there that this candidate should be deemed to have been given such permission. This order was passed on the advice of our service experts with a view to cure any technical defect if one existed and I do not think this could be construed as an admission of any defect having existed in the first instance. It was intended only as a measure of more abundant caution. I feel confident, Sir, that when I have made this statement, hon. Members of the House would realize that the Government would certainly have failed in their duty if they had rejected the candidate on whom they had spent Rs. 30,000 of their money, on this mere technical ground which was not a substantial one and in its opinion had no application to this case.

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“ Well, Sir, from the general observations which hon. Members of this House have made both with regard to this case and some other similar cases which are mentioned in the Commission's Report, one might probably go away with the impression that by repeated rejection of the advice of the Services Commission, the Government were defeating the very object with which the Services Commission has been set up by them. I must submit, Sir, that if this impression is entertained by anybody, it is a very erroneous one. Before hon. Members animadvert on the conduct of the Government in having disagreed with the recommendation of the Services Commission in the handful of instances mentioned in the Report, I would ask them to try and realize in how many hundreds of cases the Government have accepted their recommendations; in fact in several of these cases, they would have come to different conclusions if they had been dealing with the cases in the first instance. The Government have realized that the ideal which they should keep in view should be the acceptance unquestioningly of the recommendations of the Services Commission. Hon. Members would remember that under the terms of its constitution, the Services Commission is only an advisory body, but the Government have not, on the strength of these terms, regarded the Services Commission as a mere advisory body. They have, of their own accord, adopted the convention that the recommendations of the Services Commission should ordinarily be accepted by the Government and they have been acting on that convention. But hon. Members would realize that a convention does not ripen into full maturity in a year or two. As my hon. Friend Mr. Muniswami Nayudu pointed out, this is only the third report of the Services Commission which we are dealing with. The Commission is itself an infant institution: it has been in existence only for four or five years. I am sure that the sound and healthy traditions that the Commission are building up will soon silence hostile critics like my hon. Friend Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar and inspire such implicit faith in the public and in the Government as to ensure the unquestioning acceptance of all their recommendations. But I am afraid they are trying unduly to force the pace in asking for such acceptance at once. Government, as I have said, realize what the ideal ought to be. Reading the report, I see nothing in it to cause any regret to the Services Commission, to the Government or to the public. On the other hand, it is a matter for sincere gratification that we have made such rapid progress, even within the short time that the Commission has been in existence, in establishing healthy convention regulating the relations between the Government and the Service Commission.”

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ Is the hon. Member pressing his amendment? ”

MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“ We should like to hear the Development Minister.”

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“ Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Nayudu, asked why there has been delay in the publication of the list of candidates for the posts of reserve Sub-Registrars. Last year the Government asked the Services Commission to send a list

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of candidates. In the meantime a doubt arose as to whether the clerks who have acted as Sub-Registrars for some time had a legal claim for confirmation. As the number of such clerks was large in number, nearly 300, the question had to be examined whether those clerks had any preferential claim. The matter is being considered and I hope the Government would be in a position to pass orders and ask the Services Commission to send the list of candidates soon. (Interruption.) No, the clerks will not be deprived of their chances and 25 per cent of the vacancies will be given to them.

"As to the point raised by my hon. Friend, Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, the amendments to the rules were given retrospective effect in spite of the recommendation of the Services Commission, I may state briefly what had happened. In G.O. No. 782, dated 7th April 1930, the Government revised the curriculum in the Madras Veterinary College in the light of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Agriculture. The higher standard of education then prescribed demanded equally a higher standard of teaching; and the Government laid down that the four additional lecturers required should be officers with qualifications prescribed for direct recruitment to the Madras Veterinary Service. The need for amending the statutory rules to the Madras Veterinary Service in accordance with this order was overlooked and it was not until March 1932, when the Director of Veterinary Services reported that the old rules were creating practical difficulties in recruiting the best type of lecturers in the College, that the amendment was undertaken. Before the rules were amended, the Government consulted the Services Commission, and the Commission expressed the opinion that the qualifications were too high, that they would unduly restrict the field of selection and that men with such qualifications would not be available. It, therefore, advised against the proposed amendment.

"As the Government was satisfied that no lower qualifications would guarantee the standard of teaching required they amended the rules prescribing higher qualifications. The Government should have no doubt communicated their reason to the Commission earlier. The amendment was given retrospective effect from the 7th April 1930 for the following reasons:—

"Though it was recognized in G.O. No. 782, Development of that date, that the posts of lecturers required special qualifications, the statutory rules for the Madras Veterinary Services were by an oversight not amended. When the need for the amendment of the rules was brought to the notice of Government by the Director of Veterinary Services, effect was given to the amendment from the date of the above order. The amendment with retrospective effect removed a defect in the rules which ought to have been rectified before and there was no intention to evade any rule or to prejudice the claims of any qualified men. By giving retrospective effect it was felt that the Assistant Surgeons would take the trouble to qualify themselves

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in order to render themselves eligible for the lectureships. The Commission was also informed that, while the Government agreed with it, that it was dangerous to give retrospective effect to amendments if the object was to ratify in contravention of the statutory rules appointments of or advantages allowed to persons who were not eligible for them they must reserve complete freedom to amend the rules with retrospective effect if circumstances necessitated such a step.

"There is one other matter which was referred to by my hon. Friend, Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar, that a certain officer of a particular community was given preference over several others. In April 1931 the Madras Services Commission sent a list of Veterinary Assistant Surgeons arranged in order of merit under each community who were qualified and suitable for admission to the Madras Veterinary Service. This selection did not take into consideration the special qualifications required for the lectureship in the Veterinary College. I may mention here that these are the lecturers who were referred to in G.O. No. 782, dated 7th April 1930. When the turn came to the Brahman community the first man was left out and two of his juniors were appointed as lecturers because the first candidate did not possess the necessary qualifications. This caused a certain amount of hardship to the first man in the list and so the Government relaxed the communal rule in his favour and directed that the next vacancy in the Madras Veterinary Service should go to a member of the Muslim community and after a member of that community, if available, is selected, he should be promoted to the service. The Services Commission pointed out that the selection of this officer would be in supersession of the other officers belonging to other communities. The Government replied that they were aware of it. In this connexion, I may mention that, though his case was favourably dealt with, he is not likely to be selected to the Provincial Service for another four or five years to come. As such I do not think anybody is likely to be affected adversely by this order.

4-30
p.m.

"There are some other points relating to my departments but I am afraid, I have no time to deal with them all. Before I conclude I would like to point out, as has been said by my Hon. Friend, the Education Minister, that though we consult the Services Commission in regard to these matters, it does not follow that their recommendations should be accepted as a matter of course. We accept their recommendations whenever we can, but, where we find that for some reason or other, it is not possible to accept them, we, as representing this House and the people of this Province, use our discretion."

* MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Sir, with regard to item (1) of my amendment, I realize that the Government cannot interfere in the matter of the appointment of the Secretary. I dare say that the Commission will take note of the sense of this House and act in the best interests of the Commission. I therefore beg leave to withdraw that item. With regard to item (2), the Hon. the Revenue Member did not make an attempt to answer that point. He argued logically and said that when a person was aspiring for promotion, he

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might pay the fees. I would therefore not press this item to a division. With regard to item (3), having regard to the convincing reply the Hon. the Revenue Member was pleased to give, I do not want to press it. I think that item (4) was, in a way, satisfactorily answered. With regard to item (5), the Hon. Minister for Development attempted to make a reply, though I was not able to follow his arguments. At any rate I do not want to press that point also. As regards item (6), I am glad the Hon. the Revenue Member was trying to meet the point raised and I do not want to press it. With regard to item (7)—fee for medical examination—I do not think that the order of the Government of India need not be accepted by the Local Government. This Government have modified the scale of fees and they say that it has been suggested by the Government of India. I therefore think that this amendment should be pressed to a division. I do not want to press item (8). I am sure the House must feel grateful for the very close attention the Hon. the Revenue Member and the other Members of the Government have given to and treated the debate and for their trying to meet the many points that were raised.

“ There is one point to which I must invite the attention of the Hon. the Revenue Member, that is, the variation of punishments according to the communities of the persons concerned. There is lot of very serious hardship in this matter. The punishment is very serious in the case of a member of a more advanced community. A public servant belonging to a particular community is more severely punished than a member of another community. If examples are wanted I can easily give them. This happened in the Excise Department. In the case of a person who was found to be corrupt, the head of the department recommended a certain kind of punishment but the Madras Services Commission merely recommended the punishment of promotion being stopped. But in the case of Narasimhalu Nayudu, Inspector of Excise, who was found guilty of some offence, the head of the department recommended his removal from service. But the Services Commission reverted him to his permanent job as Assistant Inspector. But in the case of a person belonging to some other community, the severest punishment, namely dismissal, was awarded. It is therefore desirable that no room should be given to the complaint in the matter of punishments that the Commission is partial. It is desirable that the Government should protect the interests of public servants so that they may not become victims to the caprices of the Services Commission. Unless there were cogent reasons and arguments for meting out such severe punishments, the Government should restore those persons who were severely punished.”

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ The question is that the Report of the Madras Services Commission for the year 1932-33 submitted with reference to section 20 of the Madras Services Commission Act, 1929 (Madras Act XI of 1929), be taken into consideration.”

The motion was carried.

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* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is—
'and on such consideration, this Council recommends to the Government that the fee for medical examination be restored to Rs. 7-8-0'."

The amendment was put and declared lost.

A poll was demanded and the House divided as follows:—

Ayes.

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| 1 Mr. T. Narasa Reddi. | 16 Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt. |
| 2 " V. G. Vasudeva Pillai. | 17 " K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder. |
| 3 " G. Lakshmana Reddi. | 18 " P. Peddi Raju. |
| 4 " H. M. Jagannatham. | 19 Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur. |
| 5 Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam Chetti. | 20 Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami |
| 6 Mr. B. P. Sessa Reddi. | Nayudu. |
| 7 Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai. | 21 Mr. K. P. Raman Menon. |
| 8 Mr. P. Bayappa Reddi. | 22 " M. S. Sreshta. |
| 9 Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam | 23 " P. V. Krishnayya Choudari. |
| Chettiyar. | 24 Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi. |
| 10 Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 25 Mr. K. Koti Reddi. |
| 11 Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad | 26 Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar. |
| Sahib Bahadur. | 27 Diwan Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar. |
| 12 B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur. | 28 Mr. G. R. Premayya. |
| 13 Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. | 29 " G. Simhachalam Pantulu. |
| 14 " Abdul Hameed Khan. | 30 Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai. |
| 15 " Basheer Ahmed Sayeed. | |

Noes.

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| 1 The Hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 11 Mr. H. M. Hood. |
| 2 " Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar. | 12 Diwan Bahadur N. Gopalaswami |
| 3 " Sir Archibald Campbell. | Ayyangar. |
| 4 " Sir Hopetoun Stokes. | 13 Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu. |
| 5 " Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. | 14 " E. Conran Smith. |
| 6 " the Raja of Bobbili. | 15 " T. Sundara Rao Nayudu. |
| 7 " Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 16 Khan Sahib Syed Taj-ud-din Sahib |
| 8 Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma. | Bahadur. |
| 9 Diwan Bahadur V. N. Viswanatha Rao. | 17 Mr. G. Sriramulu. |
| 10 Mr. J. A. Thorne. | 18 Rao Bahadur D. Krishnamurti. |
| | 19 Rao Sahib D. V. Narasimhaswami. |
| | 20 " Pandit Ganala Ramamurti. |
| | 21 Mr. C. Basudev. |
| | 22 " R. M. Palat. |

Ayes 30. Noes 22.

The motion was carried.

Mr. M. S. Sreshta's amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

IV.—REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE FOR 1931-32.

* The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—"Sir, I beg to move that—
'the Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Appropriation Accounts of this Province and the Report of the Audit Officer thereon for the year 1931-32 be taken into consideration.'"

The Hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—"I second it."